

To

The Chairman and Members of  
The Bridgend District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report together  
with a statistical return of Births & Deaths  
and a tabular Statement of new cases of  
infectious sickness for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December  
1894

The number of notifications received during  
this year were in all 39, as against 43 in  
the preceding year during the six months the  
Act was in force.

The fears therefore expressed as to the ex-  
pense to which the Board would be  
put by its adoption were, I think, exaggerat-  
ed and not worth weighing against the  
advantages derived from the definiteness  
and promptness of the information received.

The infectious diseases prevalent during  
1894, have been scarlet fever 7 cases, Diphtheria  
7 cases, Enteric fever 14 cases, Continued fever  
8 cases. The greater number of these  
probably being Enteric, Typhoid, 2 cases  
and Puerperal fever 1 case.

One case of Diphtheria and three cases  
of Enteric fever proved fatal.

There was one death also from Brachy-  
not at present notifiable.

During the March quarter there occurred  
one case of Puerperal fever; and two cases of  
Enteric fever both of which ended fatally.



During the June Quarter five cases of Scarlet fever, three of Diphtheria one being fatal, one of Enteric fever and one of Erysipelas.

September quarter two cases of Scarlet fever, two of Diphtheria, five of Enteric fever, one of Continued.

December quarter two cases of Diphtheria six of Enteric fever with one death, seven of Continued fever, and one of Erysipelas.

As the result of a general inspection of the town with your Surveyor made during the March quarter sanitary defects of various descriptions were ascertained to exist at the following houses viz 19. 20, 21 North Street 9. 10. 11. 12. 13 North Street 14. 15. North Street at the last named house a case of Enteric fever occurred.

15. 16 Morfa Street, a case of Enteric fever occurred at no 19 next door. 1 - 8 Meadow Street 1 - 14 Keelstown 1 - 5 Glynn Street drainage defects 29 Holton Street, sink out let in direct communication with drain. Rain chute connected with drain and acting as drain ventilator close to level of window.

Drain termination unventilated Roof defective admitting rain and producing internal dampness, these conditions were not unnaturally associated with three cases of Enteric Fever, one of which proved fatal 30 Holton Street much the same as the above.

33 Park Street, the drain had no fresh air inlet and was not cut off by a siphon trap from the main drain and the terminal of main was not ventilated; lower down the





street and in direct connection with this drain were houses in which two cases of Enteric fever broke out. There was a case of Enteric fever at no 38. The defects were remedied and a terminal ventilator erected. The condition of the road leading to Glynn Street, of the road way in Meadow Street and Green Meadow Street in ~~wetter~~ wet weather was not unsatisfactory.

During the June Quarter cases of Scarlet fever and Diphtheria broke out regarding which I wrote a Special report to the Local Government Board and this the last Authority had the opportunity of hearing & read.

During June I reported several cases of Scarlet fever but little good can result from so doing in the absence of means for isolation of the patient and of disinfection of infected clothing by means of superheated steam.

In cases of Enteric fever and Diphtheria disinfection of clothing etc is also demanded and in <sup>the</sup> former a more systematic disinfection of the excreta.

We have in cases of Scarlet fever warned Masters of Schools not to admit members of infected house-holds; but this is of small avail as such children play with others out of school hours.

I gave evidence at the Police Court with regard to certain houses in North Street, and a closing order was obtained pending alterations.



In May I visited the slaughter house and condemned as unfit for food the carcass of a pig and sheep.

A Magistrate's order was obtained and they were destroyed. I referred to the cases of Cholera occurring at ~~in~~ St. Petersburg and to the fact that in this Country inland cases had shown themselves the year before and advised certain precautions I had recommended in the previous year.

In July Newcastle House was inspected in consequence of outbreaks of Scarlet fever, Erysipelas with several attacks of sore throats and anaemia among the inmates. Numerous and various sanitary defects were discovered and reported to the Authority with the result that eventually the drainage of the house was thoroughly reconstructed.

A case of Enteric fever at Caldro Cottage, Park Street, this house was inspected several sanitary defects ~~in~~ ascertained and reported.


During the September Quarter a case of Scarlet fever was imported from Porthcawl, I wrote to the Medical Officer of Health, Porthcawl suggesting the disinfection of the conveyance in which the patient was removed.

I drew attention to the two cases of Enteric fever occurring at 20 North Street, one of the three cottages I have condemned as insanitary for so many years.

At 22 Coily Road a case of Wiphtleria was notified and found to be associated with sanitary defects. But as the patient had been away from home the disease might have been contracted elsewhere.

Another case of Wiphtleria was notified at Rokunda Buildings likewise associated with sanitary defects. These have been rectified.

The slaughter house was visited and a quantity of offal garbage blood etc was found to be polluting the rivers.



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I directed notice to the matters to which the Medical Officer of the County Council called attention in his report on this Urban district September 1894.

1<sup>st</sup> The provision of isolation accommodation and the disinfection of clothing and bedding and dwell add of infected rooms and dwellings.

2<sup>nd</sup> The adoption of the Prevention of Infection Diseases Act 1890.

3. The framing of the bye laws with respect to the keeping of water closets supplied with sufficient water for flushing, and the paving of yards and open spaces, in connection with dwelling houses.

Also bye laws to facilitate the removal of house refuse.

4. The provision of ~~man~~ man hole covers to facilitate the flushing of sewers.

5. The desirability of printing the Annual Report of the Surveyor & Medical Officer of Health several of these recommendations I have laid before the Authority repeatedly and I trust that among others, you the New District Council will this year adopt that of printing the reports of your sanitary officers, the advantage of being able to read by yourselves instead of only hearing read such reports would lead to their more mature consideration, and I also think that the public have the right by such means to learn what their officers are doing, these would then often be less liability to misconception as to the mode ~~of their acts~~ of performance of their duties and perchance greater appreciation of the same.

In the course of inspection during the December Quarter the following premises were visited.



Richard Evans House Slanagwyd Road A case of Continued fever. Closet without flushing apparatus and drain unventilated.

Defective surface gully - hole.

Stewellyn David's house, Cefn Glas Road. A case of Continued fever Privy with pit beneath the seat untrapped yard gully - hole.

Dirty yard Cowshed placed against the house. Drain of cowshed defective.

12 Park Street A case of Continued fever. Closet without proper flushing and drain unventilated.

23 Old Bridge, a case of enteric fever, another case last year.

The house is old, low, dark, dirty, and dilapidated with no through ventilation Water Closet with foul pan and without proper flushing. Unfit for occupation.

14 Green Street, case of enteric fever.

Choked drain. W.C. drain insufficiently ventilated with 3 inch ventilation. No fresh air inlet. Cesspool not ventilated.

On this inspection I again found the upper end of Meadow Street with the road in a most unsatisfactory state with no channelling nor ricktelling.

2 Elder Street, W.C. opening into Back House No flushing system Drains not ventilated. No air space behind the house. Unfit for use as a habitable house.

The Red Lion next door to above leaves air escaping from W.C. producing smells in no 8, the drain being situated behind the bin for storing dough.





Rhin House. General dilapidation of walls & roof.  
Old, damp, and dark house.

Cracked walls and defective roof admitting rain  
and rendering all the rooms of the house damp.

Filthy unpaved back yard.

Foul W. C. with drain unventilated.

Unfit for occupation

80 Free School Court; old, low dark and dilapidated  
house.

Upstairs loft with defective roof, old rotten shingles  
and rotten rafters.

Rain comes through and causes damp.

Occasionally 8 men sleep in space only sufficient  
for four.

Unpaved, dirty back yard with insufficient air space.

Foul privy drain not ventilated.

Unfit for occupation.

79 Free School Court; old dilapidated house with  
shingled roof admitting rain. Insufficient air space  
behind. W. C. foul and without flushing cistern.  
Drain not ventilated.

82 Free School School Court W. C. foul untrapped  
without flushing cistern. Defective yard gully hole  
Drain unventilated. Defective drain from W. C. of  
83 laid under the house and allowing escape of sewer  
air.

83. Free School Court, foul closet placed inside an  
old tool house without flushing cistern. House dilapidated  
drain.

84 Lodging house overcrowded.

One bed placed in a small dark damp room under  
stairs. Foul W. C. Drain not ventilated.

85. Damp house. W. C. without flushing cistern. Foul.  
Drain unventilated.



86, 89. Camp house lb. C dilapidated and foul.  
Wains emptying their contents into the old quarry  
at the end of Victoria Street.

88, 89, 90. Old, damp, dilapidated houses.  
Defective roof admitting rain. lb. C. foul and  
without flushing cistern. Wains unventilated.

All the above houses in Free School Court unfit  
for habitation.

39, 40. Holton Street, old dilapidated houses with  
straw roof. No through ventilation foul and  
untrapped lb. C. Wains unventilated defective yard  
gully hole. 41 with thatched roof. 43 with thatched  
roof. 45, 46. Old and dilapidated houses.

Foul and untrapped lb. C. defective yard gullies.  
Wains unventilated. The above houses in Holton  
Street are unfit for occupation.

22, 24, 27, 28 Chapel Street.

Old dilapidated houses with defective roof admitting  
rain. lb. C. foul without flushing cistern.  
Wain frequently choked and not ventilated. Defective  
yard gully unpaved back yard.

20 Elder Street, small, dark, cottage no through  
ventilation. Dirty yard in front. Untrapped  
surface drain. lb. C. a dilapidated wooden structure  
foul and without flushing cistern. Wain is not ventilated.

Another cottage annexed, in same condition as  
no 20.

21 Elder Street, dark, damp, and dilapidated  
house. Insufficient ventilation. Dirty yard  
at back. lb. C. and yard in front the same as  
no 20.

The above houses in Chapel Street and Elder  
Street are unfit for habitation.

In dealing with these unsanitary houses, some





opinion, that some provision should be made for housing their occupants when turned out of their dwellings should a closing order be obtained.

And in dealing with the lodging houses and providing for their occupants, I am strongly of opinion it would be a progressive move on the part of the Council to build a model municipal lodging house to be kept under your own management and I feel fairly convinced it would eventually repay your Council for the outlay. Of the defective houses reported during the first quarter of the year 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. North Street.

14. 15, North Street. 15. 16 Mopla Street 1. 2 Meadow Street 1-14 Newtown 1-5 Slynvie Street, 29. 30 Holton Street.

33 Park Street and in the second quarter Newcastle House, Cae dre Cottage, 22 Coity Road, Rotunda Buildings, in the last quarter the house in Cefn Glas Road, 14 Green Street and the Keddon in Eldon Street the required alterations have been carried out.

During the last year much sanitary improvement has been effected, and the general condition of the ~~district~~ district so considerably bettered in many respects.

Sanitary and drainage plans for the sewerage of the whole district, together with a portion of the adjoining Rural District have been prepared and submitted for the approval of the Local Government Board. This much needed improvement has been left in abeyance owing to the refusal of the land owner, to state the amount claimed for way leave. I regret extremely that in face of the urgent need for the work being carried out it has been found impossible



to surmount the difficulties this raised.

Several new sewers have been constructed and others that were defective remedied.

The ventilation of sewers, drains, privies etc. has been largely attended to.

Buildings; several houses have been closed as unfit for habitation. Most of the common lodging houses are unfit for habitation as detailed above in this report. The anti-tubercular Byelaws with respect to new houses have been more strictly enforced this will tend in the immediate future to diminish disease, and set an example to future builders which I trust will be followed readily. Eighty dwelling houses, including seven with shops one Bank and two lock up shops have been built during the year. The surveyor has written a report on the slaughter houses, and I hope his requirements will be complied with. Several other alterations and improvements have been made which will be described in greater detail in his report for the year.

The Births during the year have been 181 Males & 85 Females 96. giving a birth rate of 33.3.

The death during the same period were inclusive of the workhouse 89 giving a death rate of 15.0 including the workhouse 93 with a death rate of 13.4. The Zymotic death rate is 0.9. and the death rate of children under 1 year 99.4 all these averages are of distinctly favorable import. The Birth rate this year being 33.3 as compared with 32 the last year and with a birth rate of 30.8 for England and Wales





in 1893.

The general death rate is 15 compared with 16.3 in 1893; but in this connection it must be remembered that the cool wet summer of 1894 was more favorable to life than the hot summer of 1893. This rate also compares well with the death rate of 19.2 for England and Wales.

The Typhoid death rate is appreciably less than that of the year before 0.9 to 1.5 in 1893.

And the death rate of children under 1 year is considerably less than in the previous year, 99.4 to 139.3.

I think this continued lowered death rate is a matter for congratulation and it strengthens my hope expressed in the previous Annual report that this diminution is not illusory owing to the fact that it has declined each year since 1890.

I beg to remain  
Gentlemen

Yours faithfully  
Wm. Graham Randall  
M. D. H.

Bridgend.

12<sup>th</sup> February 1895.

